



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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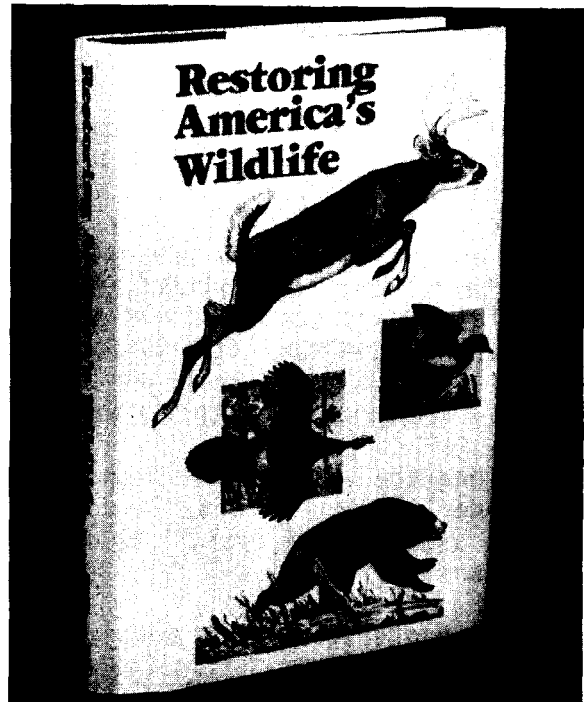
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QUIET COMEBACK OF AMERICA'S ANIMALS TOLD IN A BIG WAY IN "RESTORING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE"

Until now, it's a story that's never been fully told.

The tale opens as a near-tragedy, continues as an action-adventure, and culminates in a happy ending, though the final chapter in the saga remains to be written.

The cast of characters numbers in the millions and the scene sweeps from coast to coast, over five decades and 50 States.



It's the story of America's wildlife and it promises to be 1987's conservation bestseller.

Restoring America's Wildlife, published this month by the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, chronicles 50 years of wildlife conservation in America from the Dust Bowl days of the Great Depression, when wood ducks and wild turkeys were as rare as a dollar bill, to today, as many species of game animals hit the highest population levels of this century.

Publication of Restoring America's Wildlife marks the half-century anniversary of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, a far-sighted program created in 1937 by some gifted visionaries who helped engineer the world's most remarkable rebound of native wildlife. Under this national conservation program, now popularly known as the "Pittman-Robertson" program, dozens of the Nation's most highly prized game species of birds and mammals have re-emerged to record levels, testimony to the wisdom of professional wildlife management and the amazing recuperative power of wildlife species. White-tailed deer, pronghorn antelope, and prairie chickens, among many others, have reappeared like long-lost friends from 1930's scarcity to 1980's abundance.

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And it hasn't cost the general taxpayer a cent! Sportsmen alone have financed this assistance to State game management, land acquisition, and research programs through "Pittman-Robertson's" unique funding arrangement. Excise taxes carried on many types of sporting equipment have financed this wildlife renaissance with the self-imposed tax dollars of hunters--nearly \$2 billion at last count.

"Pittman-Robertson's 50th anniversary is an ideal time to take stock of what this remarkable program has accomplished, what still needs to be done, and what the future seems to hold for our wildlife in a period of rapid change," writes President Reagan in his introduction to Restoring America's Wildlife. "It is also an appropriate time to salute the thousands of concerned Americans who have made substantial contributions of time and money to the success of this national effort."

With nationally-known conservation writers and researchers like Joseph Linduska, Daniel Poole, and Maurice Hornocker as your armchair guides, in Restoring America's Wildlife you'll track black bears in the southern Appalachian highlands, follow the fortunes of the returning giant Canada geese, and marvel at how prairie chickens have hung onto their ancestral Midwestern "booming grounds." Their narratives are graced by the paintings of acclaimed artists Bob Hines and Tom Beecham, illustrator of many wildlife calendars by the Remington Arms Company. Interspersed throughout the text are color photographs from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other wildlife photographers throughout the Nation.

Along the way, you'll learn what the dollars of sporting enthusiasts have done to bring otters, falcons, bluebirds, and many other non-game species back for the benefit of folks who hunt solely with camera and binoculars.

For hunters, outdoor hobbyists, conservationists, and students of wildlife management, Restoring America's Wildlife is "must" reading for anyone seeking to understand conservation in the United States over the past 50 years and hoping to predict future trends in wildlife enhancement.

The 394-page hardcover volume, Restoring America's Wildlife, is currently being offered for sale at a special anniversary-year price of only \$15 (through October 31, 1987) from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9325. (Specify stock number 024-010-00671-4.) This introductory price includes regular domestic postage and handling charges. Payment may be made by personal check payable to the Superintendent of Documents, by Government Printing Office deposit account, or by VISA, MasterCard, or Choice credit cards. Credit card and deposit account customers may also place orders by telephone, 202-783-3238, specifying title and stock number.

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Note to daily newspaper book editors: Single review copies of Restoring America's Wildlife are available while supplies last from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Public Affairs, Room 3447 Main Interior Building, Washington, DC 20240 (202-343-5634). Black-and-white glossy photographs and color slides of the cover of Restoring America's Wildlife are also available upon request.